

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for treating Parkinson's disease using  
5 an oral dosage formulation comprising an immediate release  
layer of 10-25 mg of carbidopa and 50-200 mg of levodopa and  
a sustained release layer of 25-75 mg of carbidopa and 100-  
400 mg of levodopa whereby, following administration,  
carbidopa and levodopa are available for rapid and sustained  
10 therapeutic action.
2. A method as claimed in Claim 1 characterized by  
a sustained release core depot of carbidopa-levodopa  
overcoated by an immediate release layer of carbidopa-  
levodopa.
- 15 3. A method as claimed in Claim 1 characterized by  
a multilayer tablet comprising at least one layer of  
sustained release carbidopa-levodopa adjacent to at least  
one layer of immediate release carbidopa-levodopa.
- 20 4. A method of Claim 3 wherein the layers in the  
tablet are separated by an excipient layer.
- 25 5. A pharmaceutical composition in oral dosage  
form for treating Parkinson's disease comprising a  
combination of an immediate release portion of a combination  
of carbidopa and levodopa and a sustained release portion of  
a combination of carbidopa and levodopa, the composition  
effective in treating Parkinson's disease, and a  
pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, and whereby the  
carbidopa and levodopa are available for immediate and  
sustained therapeutic action upon administration.
- 30 6. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 5  
wherein the dosage form comprises a sustained release core  
portion of carbidopa and levodopa overcoated by an immediate  
release layer of carbidopa and levodopa.
- 35 7. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 5  
wherein the dosage form comprises a multilayer tablet  
comprising at least one layer of sustained release  
carbidopa-levodopa adjacent to at least one layer of  
immediate release carbidopa-levodopa.

8. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 5 wherein the immediate release portion comprises about 10-25 mg of carbidopa and 50-200 mg of levodopa and a sustained release portion of about 25-75 mg of carbidopa and 5 100-400 mg of levodopa.

9. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 8 wherein the dosage form comprises a sustained release core portion of carbidopa-levodopa overcoated by an immediate release layer of carbidopa-levodopa.

10 10 The pharmaceutical layer of Claim 8 wherein the dosage form comprises a multilayer tablet of at least one layer of sustained release carbidopa-levodopa adjacent to at least one layer of immediate release carbidopa-levodopa.

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